

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel original claims 1-38 and add new claims 39-41 as follows.

1-38. (Canceled)

39. (New) A method of rendering infectious prions non-infectious, comprising the steps of:
contacting infectious prions with a formulation comprising a cationic detergent; and
maintaining the formulation with an acid chosen from peracetic acid and acetic acid at a pH in a range of from about 2.5 to about 4.5 and at a temperature in a range of from about 15°C to about 140°C so as to render the infectious prions completely non-infectious in two hours or less.

40. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the cationic detergent is dodecyltriethylammonium bromide (DTAB) .

41. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the cationic detergent is cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB).